**Exam Refreshers for VCE History Teachers- 20/08/09**

**General Exam Advice:**

-Students select on the front of the exam booklet, what rev they will do for each section.

- More space allocated for each question.

- Scored out of 80.

- 120 minutes writing 15 minutes reading time.

- Extra script book is fine to use- Only use it if you absolutely have too, for example if you have big hand writing. The lines are an indicator of the time you should spend on each question.

**Time allocation:**

-Extended response= 10 minutes each

- Document and graphic analysis= 30 minutes each

- Short essay= 35 minutes each

- 5 minutes for proof-reading/planning each.

Use 15 minutes for planning.

-Let your students make up their own mind on their strategy- But talk to them about their strategy and make sure they have a reason for it.

**Revision Tips:**

1. Access past papers/reports= Show students how to use the site and which exams are relevant.
2. Pump revision lectures.- Going gets their parents off their backs. Go to get an idea of your competition.
3. Make students aware of where AOS 1 finishes and when AOS 2 begins. **So many do not know this**! Eg talking about the provisional government in
4. Create revision booklet= Study design, tips for questions, breakdown of what to do leading up to the exam= Create check list for students to do leading up to exam.
5. Use exam style paper, give them an idea of the amount of lines. Make them practice under exam conditions- 10 minutes for questions.
6. Use spelling tests- Names/Places/Groups/Events/terminology (Lenin, Brest, bourgeoisie).- Give them lollies etc for a reward.
7. Find quiz cards for the revolutions- Revise cards: Philip Allan- [www.philipallan.co.uk](http://www.philipallan.co.uk)
8. Provide sample responses and have students critique them. Encourage them to critique each others work. Ask them to note what quotes work well.- Does it address the question? Does it end with a strang sentence? Has it answered the question? Does the piece stay within the time frame? Has relevant evidence been used to support the answer? Has a variety of evidence been used (dates/names/peoples names/specific events).
9. Revision notes- Ask them to create them early (Do it for first rev over the June Holidays). Do last years exam for first revolution over the holidays. Make them use their revision notes to answer questions in class. Encourage them to use cards or to type their work.

**Revision timeline:**

**Now:**

- Collect past exam/examiners report

-Organise your notes.

**Late September:**

- Revision notes/dot point summaries/mind maps/ create hint sheets.

-Read regularly (keep first revolution in mind also)

- Attend revision lectures/seminars

**End of October:**

-Complete practice tasks. Continue to meet with teacher.

-Meet with each other create revolutionary groups.

-Avoid the urge to cram.

- Stay focused- eat and sleep well

-Work at the same time as the exam.- Same amount of time and at the same time to get your body in sync with the exam.

- Review best responses/models

**What makes good revision notes good?**

Organisation- sub headings/ highlighted quotes.

Chronology

Know the story but move beyond it- What is significant about the story?

Key events- Who were the players? What were the details? What was the ideology involved in the event? What were the outcomes or effects of the event? What evidence supports your claims on this event?

**Sample Revision Notes:**

1st- Good but gets lazy towards the end.

2nd- Bad- General ideas, goes off topic, lacks dates and chronology.

3rd- Perfect SAC marks- Heavily reliant on Malone, however.

**Possible headings for revision notes:**

Weakness of the tsar.

Economic tensions

Social tensions

WWI

February 1917

The Provisional Government

Etc, etc…

**Methods for encouraging trouble students to understand:**

1. Mnemonics/ tagging- Pair information with objects, images, placing them around the house.- Anagrams- Example V.E.S.P.A- Vanguard (the party protects and fuels the revolution), Elite (party leadership), Secretive, Proffesional (Revolutionaries), Accelerate (the revolution).
2. Review First Revolution- Video and detailed questions- Eg “the October Revolution” for Russia.
3. Headings and fill in the caps style notes. Eg Weakness of the Tsar- Put headings under it and ask them to fill in the missing information.

**Sentence Starters:**

This event marked the beginning of the revolution because…

This was a catalyst in the revolution because….

This extract provides only a partial account

This is one historians view. By contrast, other historians such as… argue/claim…

The vailidity of the extract could be challenged by….

**Tables:**

**Example:**

Revolutionary groups in Russia in 1905 for Liberals/ S.Rs and Social Democrats.

Answer the following in a table:

Main leaders

Support base

Aims/key ideas

Tactics

Examples of activities

Significance in 1905

**2009 Exam:**

New hints- Provide evidence for

Skills to focus on- Using the extract or the image, refer to other historians.

* Go beyond the story, this is rubbish, interpreting and understanding the significance of the story is what they are after.

**Extended response questions:**

**-** Don’t repeat the question- aggravates examiners.

-Pick the questions.

- Always address the question.

-Sign post your points with “firstly” “secondly” “thirdly” “furthermore “in addition”.

- Absolutely do not use dot points though!

- Shortening words is ok but use the full word first.

- You can use short quotes, these are fine “peace, bread, land” These are good.

- Don’t slam in useless quotes.

- Keep it as a paragraph, but a big one. 10 minutes only on this question.

- 20 lines.- Continue underneath the lines if you absolutely have to but never on the back of you lined sheet.

**The document and graphic questions:**

Questions a-b

-Give me questions basically.

-If required to list names simply do that. One word are acceptable in some questions` are acceptable. Keep it simple, low level comprehension questions.

-You can even just paraphrase or quote the article to answer these questions.

Question C

- Must quote, paraphrase or at the very least refer to the extract or image.

- Identify the bias in the image or extract.

-Still bring in your own knowledge however! Don’t rely purely on image or extract

Question D

-Most complex, READ IT CAREFULLY!

- These questions ask you to evaluate how good this image is as a history source.

- Bring in historian or eyewitness views to contradict or support what is presented in the image or document.

- Do not make up quotes!

- Some of the historians you could use are actually marking your exams- Di McDonald, Richard Malone mark exams don’t quote them as saying something they didn’t say.

**The Essay**

* Emphasis on the New Society- Do not compare to the old regime.
* Do not make it a narrative!
* Do not use historians perspectives in the place of evidence.- Historians in this section are optional not a requirement, do not get bogged down in them.
* Keep facts relevant don’t chuck them in because you know them.